



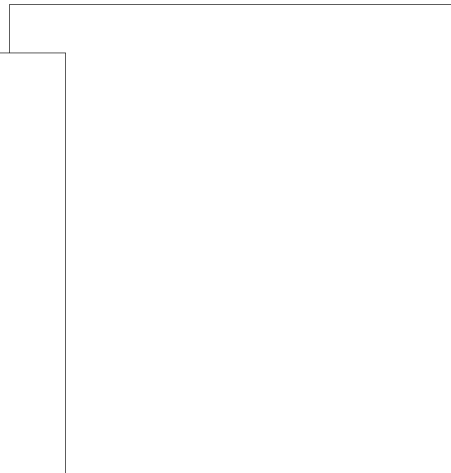
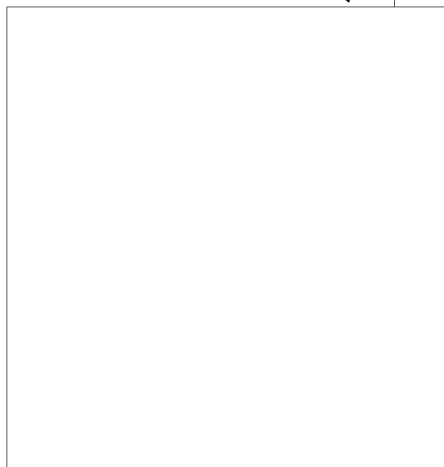
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- Background on
story Steve Kasalberg



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OCA 87-6150
21 December 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

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FROM: David D. Gries
Director of Congressional Affairs

SUBJECT: Discussion with Steve Engleberg, New York Times

On 10 December, during a break in the public hearing in the Cohen-Boren Bill, Steve Engleberg of the New York Times introduced himself to me and engaged Calvin Humphrey of the House Intelligence Committee staff and me in a conversation on the difficulties of reporting intelligence subjects in the press. Engleberg said that his stories were mosaics made up of bits and pieces from a variety of sources. Since everything he wrote about was considered classified by the executive branch, it was extremely difficult to put together a good story. I commented that the classification problem also led to a great deal of inaccuracy in news reporting on intelligence. Interestingly, he agreed.

Late in the conversation, Engleberg asked if he could see me alone to discuss a story that he had been trying to put together over the last year or so. He had already talked to Bill Baker about it. Having myself talked to Baker, and recognizing a story I did not want to contribute to, I told him that all dealings with the press had to run through Baker's office. Later, back at Headquarters, I reported the conversation to Baker and said that, if Engleberg called for an appointment, I did not want to become involved.

cc: D/PAO

D/OCA/DDG: (21 Dec 87)

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